

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application. The independent claims of this application are claims 1, 5, 12 and 16.

Statutory Type Double Patenting Rejections

In the Office Action, claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as the claims in the parent applications, i.e. U.S. Patent No. 6,351,460 and U.S. Patent No. 6,714,512.

Claims 1-22 have been amended and are no longer coextensive in scope with the claims of the parent applications, thereby overcoming the double patenting rejections.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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